

### **BRIEFING: August 2013, BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM #2**

TO: Chairman Richard and Board Members

FROM: Michelle Boehm, Southern California Regional Director

**DATE:** August 1, 2013

RE: Proposal to Issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Bakersfield to

Palmdale Project Section Regional Consultant (RC) Contract

### **Introduction**

It is the Authority's intent to best serve the public interest by delivering all aspects of the California High-Speed Rail Program on schedule, at the lowest possible cost, and with quality that meets or exceeds acceptable industry and government standards. Based on the following analysis, staff has determined it is in the best interest of the State to re-advertise for the Bakersfield to Palmdale section of the California High-Speed Rail System. Staff therefore requests Board approval to issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Environmental/Engineering Services for the Bakersfield to Palmdale section. This RFQ contains the Board adopted 30 percent small business participation goal and a 30 day termination clause.

#### **Background**

The Bakersfield to Palmdale section is approximately 83 miles in length traveling through the Tehachapi Mountains roughly parallel to State Highway 58 and State Highway 14. This section connects to stations being planned in the cities of Bakersfield, connecting to the Fresno to Bakersfield section, and Palmdale, connecting to the Palmdale to Los Angeles section.

The Authority's existing contract for this section is with the URS, Hatch Mott McDonald, & ARUP Joint Venture (URS JV). It was awarded on February 12, 2007 for the Fresno to Palmdale section to complete the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS), 15% and 30% engineering and to conduct public outreach. The initial contract value was \$119.99 million. Subsequently, the Authority split this longer section into two shorter sections, Fresno to Bakersfield and Bakersfield to Palmdale.

On June 29, 2012, a one-year contract amendment was executed, extending the contract through June 30, 2013 in anticipation of a Record of Decision on the Fresno to Bakersfield EIR/EIS by Fall 2012. As both sections are included in one contract this extension effectively applied to work on the Bakersfield to Palmdale section, as well.

In April 2013, the Board approved an amendment to contract #HSR06-0003 extending the contract through June 30, 2015 (Resolution #HSRA 13-06) to allow completion of PE/NEPA/CEQA work on the Fresno to Bakersfield section. In that action, the Board also amended the existing contract to add \$38.25 million, for a total contract value of \$158.24 million. Within that amended budget, there is sufficient capacity to target nominal funds, pending this action, to complete critical work currently underway on the Bakersfield to Palmdale section and to allow for a smooth transition to a new contract for that section that would result from this request to initiate a procurement process.

Work elements in the Bakersfield to Palmdale Section that have been previously completed or are on-going include:

- Scoping Report (completed)
- Purpose and Need Document (completed)
- Preliminary Engineering (on-going)
- Environmental Technical Studies (on-going)
- Supplemental Alternatives Analysis (on-going)
- Public outreach activities/agency coordination (on-going)

It is important to note that the existing contract is task driven. The RC only performs duties that it is directed to perform by the Authority. This is accomplished through the development and approval of Annual Work Plans (AWP) for each project. Once the tasks under an existing AWP are completed, no further work would be performed until a new AWP (if any) is approved. This contract, as with all of the Authority's A&E contracts, contains a 30-day termination clause.

Work activities anticipated under a new contract resulting from a re-advertisement for services for the Bakersfield to Palmdale section include the planning, engineering, environmental studies, and stakeholder coordination required to support the Authority by:

- Finalizing Revised Supplemental Alternatives Analyses (RSAA) (if required)
- Completing the Project EIR/EIS
- Completing Preliminary Engineering for the Design/Build procurement process
- Supporting Preparation of Design/Build Contract Specifications
- Supporting Stakeholder and Agency Coordination consistent with the Authority's goals
- Supporting the Authority on an as-needed basis in station area planning, sustainability, private investment opportunities, phasing, and implementation planning

#### **Discussion**

This recommendation considers the following opportunities and risks: loss of consistency/continuity, stakeholder relationships, competition, potential conflicts of interest, loss of institutional knowledge, and imminent disruption and delay. This qualitative risk-based assessment was performed in consultation with the Authority's Chief Deputy Director, Chief Program Manager, Chief Financial Officer, Regional Directors, Chief Counsel and Risk Manager.

As the high-speed rail program advances and matures, professional consultant services procurement, structure, and organization will be continuously assessed and enhanced. Due to the

dynamic nature of the project, there will likely be future opportunities to improve efficiency. Over the next year, the Authority plans to implement various strategic planning initiatives. The area of professional consulting services procurement will be one area of emphasis with the goal of building on the Authority's long term consulting strategy.

The procurement process for the Bakersfield to Palmdale section will be managed directly by Authority staff consistent with the State's competitive Architectural & Engineering (A&E) procurement processes. The RFQ will be issued and A&E consultants will submit statements of qualifications (SOQs) to be evaluated by Authority staff in accordance with the Authority's administrative regulations. SOQs and oral discussions will be the basis for ranking of the top consultants. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or its designee will negotiate a contract beginning with the top ranked consultant. The CEO would then submit its recommendation to the Board for approval. If approved by the Board, the CEO, on behalf of the Authority, would then enter into a contract with the selected consultant.

The following is an overview of the work that would be completed as part of a new contract resulting from a re-advertisement of the Bakersfield to Palmdale Section:

- Task 1 Project Management
- Task 2 Public Participation Support
- Task 3 Project Definition
- Task 4 Preliminary Engineering
- Task 5 Environmental Impact Analysis
- Task 6 Station Area Development Planning
- Task 7 Draft and Final Project-Level EIR/EIS Document(s)
- Task 8 Certification of EIR/EIS Document(s) and Permitting
- Task 9 Right of Way Preservation and Acquisition Services

The Authority's Contract Manager would administer the contract through the issuance of task orders based on the selected consultant's approved work plan. The work plan will be structured so that the overall project schedule is not impacted.

It is anticipated this would be a 5-year \$46.1 million contract for services to complete the tasks as described above. These costs are included in the 2012 Business Plan estimates for total project costs and as such do not signify any increase in cost.

The proposed action would cover the following:

- Approve issuance of an RFQ soliciting environmental/engineering services for the Bakersfield to Palmdale section.
- Approve the use of nominal funds under the existing RC contract to complete critical
  work elements currently underway and to allow for a smooth transition to a new RC
  contract for the Bakersfield to Palmdale section.

# **Procurement Schedule**

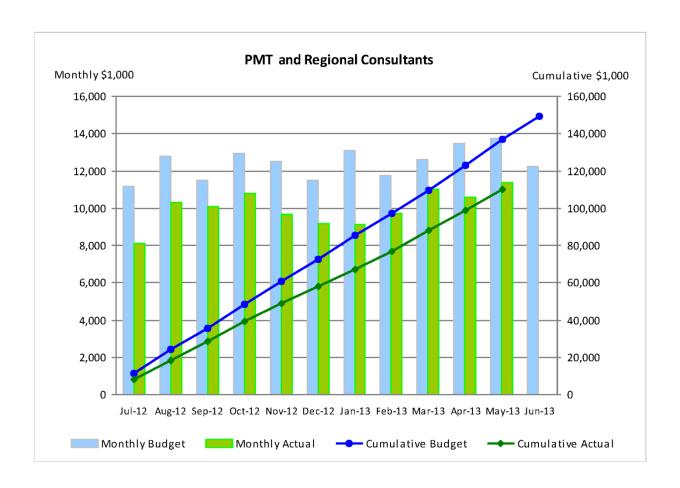
Upon Board approval, RFQ will be advertised on August 2, 2013 with the proposal due on August 30, 2013. Interviews will be held the week of September 16, 2013. The Authority Board will review the Final Agreement and Cost Proposal on October 3, 2013, and the targeted execution date will be October 18, 2013.

# Recommendations

Staff recommends that the Board approve the issuance of an RFQ soliciting Environmental and Engineering services for the Bakersfield to Palmdale section.

# **Attachments**

- Resolution #HSRA 13-15
- PMT and Regional Consultants Expenditure Graph
- Draft RFQ



CHSRA Program Components	May (\$1,000)		Fiscal Year Cumulative (\$1,000)				Total EV
	Monthly Planned	Monthly Actual	Planned	Actual	Variance Over/Under	% (-Over/ +Under)	Total FY Budget
Program Management (PB)	\$5,164	\$4,885	\$48,197	\$44,249	\$3,948	8	\$52,651
San Francisco - San Jose (HNTB)	\$153	\$22	\$1,595	\$327	\$1,268	80	\$1,728
San Jose - Merced (Parsons)	\$1,347	\$1,080	\$11,539	\$10,003	\$1,535	13	\$12,957
Merced - Fresno (AECOM)	\$925	\$1,250	\$12,503	\$12,189	\$314	3	\$13,296
Fresno - Bakersfield (U-H-A)	\$3,017	\$2,486	\$29,568	\$19,460	\$10,108	34	\$31,916
Bakersfield - Palmdale (U-H-A)	\$987	\$412	\$12,409	\$10,430	\$1,979	16	\$13,259
Palmdale - Los Angeles (H-U-A)	\$859	\$603	\$8,844	\$7,718	\$1,126	13	\$9,597
Los Angeles - Anaheim (STV)	\$657	\$250	\$5,521	\$2,086	\$3,435	62	\$6,068
Los Angeles - San Diego (HNTB)	\$191	\$222	\$1,832	\$1,453	\$379	21	\$2,000
Sacramento - Merced (AECOM)	\$199	\$135	\$1,897	\$1,214	\$683	36	\$2,070
Altamont (AECOM)	\$254	\$64	\$3,066	\$918	\$2,148	70	\$3,686
TOTAL	\$13,753	\$11,408	\$136,971	\$110,047	\$26,923	20	\$149,228